

# EXHIBIT O

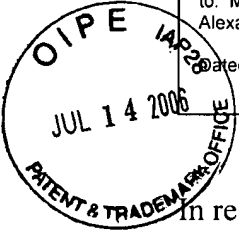
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV 596702616 US, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: July 14, 2006

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

(Megha Aggarwal)

PATENT  
Docket No. 543312000420



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:

Ravinder S. DHALLAN

Serial No.: 10/661,165

Filing Date: September 11, 2003

For: METHODS FOR DETECTION OF  
GENETIC DISORDERS

Confirmation No.: 7501

Examiner: E. Whisenant

Group Art Unit: 1634

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 & 1.98**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and § 1.98, Applicant submits for consideration in the above-identified application the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08a/b. A copy of the non-patent literature is submitted herewith. The Examiner is requested to make these documents of record.

This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- ☐ With the application; accordingly, no fee or separate requirements are required.
- ☐ Before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under § 1.114. However, if applicable, a certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (e)(1) has been provided.

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02 FC:1806

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Application Serial No. 10/661,165

PATENT  
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- ☐ Within three months of the application filing date or before mailing of a first Office Action on the merits; accordingly, no fee or separate requirements are required. However, if applicable, a certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (e)(1) has been provided.
- ☒ After receipt of a first Office Action on the merits but before mailing of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance.
- ☐ A fee is required. A check in the amount of \_\_\_ is enclosed.
- ☒ A fee is required. Accordingly, a Fee Transmittal form (PTO/SB/17) is attached to this submission in duplicate.
- ☐ A Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is provided above; accordingly, no fee is believed to be due.
- ☐ After mailing of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the issue fee.
- ☐ A Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is provided above and a check in the amount of \_\_\_ is enclosed.
- ☐ A Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is provided above and a Fee Transmittal form (PTO/SB/17 is attached to this submission in duplicate.)

Applicant would appreciate the Examiner initialing and returning the Form PTO/SB/08a/b, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

The information contained in this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98 is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above-information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal form is separated from this document and the Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief (such as payment of a fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (p)) is required, Applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petition and/or other

Application Serial No. 10/661,165

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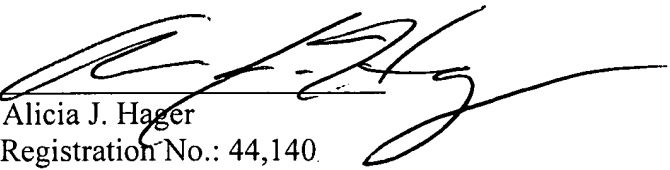
Docket No. 543312000420

fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952**  
referencing 543312000420.

Dated: July 14, 2006

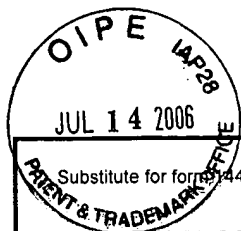
Respectfully submitted,

By

  
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ALTERNATIVE TO PTO/SB/08a/b (07-05)

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (Use as many sheets as necessary)				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				Application Number	10/661,165
				Filing Date	September 11, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Ravinder S. DHALLAN
				Art Unit	1634
				Examiner Name	E. Whisenant
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	543312000420

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	1.	US-2003/0044791-A1	03-06-2003	Flemington	
	2.	US-2003/0180746-A1	09-25-2003	Kmiec et al.	
	3.	US-2003/0235834-A1	12-25-2003	Dunlop et al.	
	4.	US-4,994,372-A	02-19-1991	Tabor et al.	
	5.	US-6,004,744-A	12-21-1999	Goelet et al.	
	6.	US-6,730,517-B1	05-04-2004	Köster et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				

\*EXAMINER: Initial if information considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
	7.	Saito, H. et al. (Sept. 30, 2000). "Prenatal DNA Diagnosis of a Single-Gene Disorder from Maternal Plasma," <i>The Lancet</i> 356:1170.	

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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